

**PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS**

**May 23, 2005**

**The regular meeting of the Pascoag Utility District Board of Utility Commissioners was held on Monday, May 23, 2005, in the District office, 253 Pascoag Main Street, Pascoag, RI.**

**Members Present: Albert Palmisciano, Brian Choiniere, William Mageau, Thomas Partridge, Ann Polacek, Adrien Trudeau**

**Members Absent: Dennis Whitman**

**Also in Attendance: William Bernstein, Esq., Theodore Garille**

**Chairman Palmisciano called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.**

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Good and Welfare of the District**

**A. Public Utility Commission Data Request – Docket No. 1725**

**Mr. Choiniere made a motion to receive and file, which was seconded by Mr. Partridge. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

**B. Utility District Summer Hours**

**Mr. Garille provided the Board with information changing the summer hours to 7:30 am to 3:30 pm for all office personnel.**

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

- Regular April Meeting – May 2, 2005**
- Special Meeting – May 4, 2005**

**Mr. Mageau made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

### **4. Unfinished Business**

#### **A. NYPA—Niagara Relicensing Update**

**Mr. Garille provided a status of the negotiations for NYPA power.**

### **5. New Business**

**There was no new business for the Board.**

### **6. Committee Comments**

#### **A. Review of Water Subcommittee Meeting with Harrisville Fire District**

**Mrs. Polacek gave an overview of the joint meeting held between the Harrisville Fire District and Pascoag Utility District Water Subcommittees. Mr. Palmisciano read the following letter dated May 11, 2005 from Harrisville Fire District to the Water Resource Board regarding the joint meeting:**

**Several issues were discussed. One issue, capacity, was briefly**

touched upon. Albert Palmisciano stated that current Pascoag demand was 350,000 daily. He stated that Pascoag hopes to supply approximately 25% of their current demand from 2 new wells located near Reservoir Road within the next several weeks. Scott George stated that pumping totals were being watched closely at Harrisville as advised by Harrisville's engineering firm, Dufresne-Henry.

Another issue, a merger of the two water departments was brought up by Scott George. Albert Palmisciano stated that they felt things were going along fairly well as they are, buying water from Harrisville and developing new well sites. He also stated that a merger would probably not be feasible due to the water department debt and the remediation issues at their well site. Mr. Palmisciano also stated that if any merger were to occur he felt it would be desirable that the merged system be an independent entity, such as a "Town Water Board of Department". Scott George stated that as the main provider of water to Pascoag and Harrisville, there are certain inherent responsibilities that go along with that. Namely, to assure adequate supply quantities, assurance that the water is always safe for consumption, and that additional supplies for future demand are identified and developed. Harrisville Fire District has demonstrated recently by increasing its daily water supply dramatically from .5 million to 1.250 million gallons enabling Harrisville to accommodate Pascoag's water needs. Therefore any merged water department should ultimately fall within the authority of the Harrisville Fire District. Scott George stated that a certain degree of autonomy for a

merged Harrisville-Pascoag Water Board might be explored. Harrisville also suggested that before any merger could take place, another joint water department survey by Bacon & Edge would be appropriate.

There was much discussion regarding the letter from Harrisville and the actual conversations during the subcommittee meeting. Ms. Allaire noted that the only debt the Water Department currently carries is the cost of Wells 3/3A, and a small balance on the water tank, totaling approximately \$198,000. Mr. Garille added that the value of the Water Department is in excess of \$1 million and noted that it should not be misconstrued to be debt-ridden.

Mr. Garille recommended the Pascoag Utility District Water Subcommittee minutes be sent, with a cover letter, to the Water Resource Board to accurately reflect the meeting. Mr. Partridge made a motion to send a cover letter with the minutes to the Water Resource Board. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Polacek. The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **7. Financial Reports**

**A. Electric Department – March, 2005**

**B. Water Department – March, 2005**

Ms. Allaire reviewed the report, noting that the building projects are complete and the contractor was paid. She added that the Water Department income statement only showed one month of revenue,

but the April statement would include more payments. Mr. Choiniere made a motion to accept the financial reports which was seconded by Mr. Partridge. The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **8. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **9. Executive Session**

Mr. Partridge made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussions of job performance pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) and pertaining to litigation pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous. The Board entered into executive session at 7:49 pm and exited at 8:07 pm. Mr. Partridge made a motion to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote to return to open session was unanimous. Mr. Partridge made a motion to seal the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous. The minutes of this meeting shall remain confidential for as long as necessary pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, until a majority of the Board shall vote to open said minutes as provided for and subject to the open meeting law.

## **10. Adjournment**

Mr. Mageau made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mrs. Polacek. The vote in favor was unanimous. Chairman Palmisciano adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

---

**Sharon McDonald, Recording Secretary**

---

**Brian Choiniere, Secretary**  
**Board of Utility Commissioners**